

REMARKS

In this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 8 and 15, and cancels claims 2-5, 9-12, 16 and 17, without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1, 6-8, 13-15, 18-22 and 24 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant traverses the rejection as follows.

In view of the amendments to claims 1, 8 and 15 submitted herewith, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 8-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicant traverses the rejection as follows.

In view of the amendments to claims 8 and 15 submitted herewith, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No.: 09/750,475

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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